

I CLAIM:

1. An anchoring system for a bone, comprising first and second anchoring members each having proximal and distal ends, said proximal ends being spaced from each other with said first and second anchoring members converging from said proximal ends towards said distal ends, said anchoring members being adapted to be connected to each other in the bone and distally of said proximal ends, wherein there are provided at least two said first anchoring members each adapted to be connected to said second anchoring member.
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2. An anchoring system as defined in claim 1, wherein said second anchoring member and each said first anchoring member define co-operating engagement means for connecting each said first anchoring member to said second anchoring member.
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3. An anchoring system as defined in claim 2, wherein said co-operating engagement means comprise inter-engageable male and female parts provided respectively on said first and second anchoring members, there being provided more than one of said female part with each said female part being adapted to receive one said male part.
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4. An anchoring system as defined in claims 1 to 3, wherein said first anchoring members extend coplanarly when connected to said second anchoring member.
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5. An anchoring system as defined in claims 1 to 3, wherein said first anchoring members extend in at least two different planes when connected to said second anchoring member.
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6. An anchoring system for mounting an object to a bone, comprising first and second anchoring members each having proximal and distal ends, said proximal ends being adapted to hold the object to the bone, said proximal ends being spaced from each other with said first and second anchoring members converging from said proximal ends towards said distal ends, said anchoring members being adapted to be connected to each other in the bone and distally of said proximal ends, wherein there are provided at least two said first
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anchoring members each adapted to be connected to said second anchoring member.

5 7. An anchoring system as defined in claim 6, wherein said second anchoring member and each said first anchoring member define co-operating engagement means for connecting each said first anchoring member to said second anchoring member.

10 8. An anchoring system as defined in claim 7, wherein said co-operating engagement means comprise inter-engageable male and female parts provided respectively on said first and second anchoring members, there being provided more than one of said female part with each said female part being adapted to receive one said male part.

15 9. An anchoring system as defined in claims 6 to 8, wherein said first anchoring members extend coplanarly when connected to said second anchoring member.

20 10. An anchoring system as defined in claims 6 to 8, wherein said first anchoring members extend in at least two different planes when connected to said second anchoring member.

25 11. An anchoring system as defined in claims 1 to 10, wherein at least one male anchoring member includes an opening adapted to be engaged by a further male anchoring member, said at least one male anchoring member thereby acting as an hybrid anchoring member that both engages said female anchoring member and is engaged by said further male anchoring member.

30 12. An anchoring system as defined in claims 2 and 7, wherein said co-operating engagement means comprise threads provided on said male anchoring member and a tap defined in an opening formed in said female anchoring member.

35 13. An anchoring system as defined in claims 2 and 7, wherein said co-operating engagement means comprise a slot defined through said female anchoring member and a hook provided on said male anchoring member and

adapted to be inserted through said slot and to be rotated so as to engage said hook behind said female anchoring member.

14. An anchoring system as defined in claims 2 and 7, wherein said co-operating engagement means comprise an opening defined in said female anchoring member and an expendable element provided on said male anchoring member and adapted to be inserted through said opening and to then spread automatically, or to be spread mechanically, once behind said female anchoring member.

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15. An anchoring member as defined in claims 2 and 7, wherein said co-operating engagement means comprise a clip provided on said female anchoring member and adapted to displace from a male anchoring member receiving position for receiving said male anchoring member to a male anchoring member retaining position for connecting said male and female anchoring members together.

16. The use of an anchoring system as defined in claims 1 to 15 for stabilizing a fractured bone.

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17. The use of an anchoring system as defined in claims 1 to 15 for mounting an object to one or more bones.

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18. The use of an anchoring system as defined in claims 1 to 15, wherein said female anchoring member extends within a bone and through a break defined therein, said male anchoring member engaging said female anchoring member for maintaining the bone together.